

Freshwater–Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation

Date: September 26, 2012 Meeting: Monthly
Place: Stroud Building, Glovertown Time: 7:30 PM

Present:

Kevin Stroud	Scott Pritchett
John Baird	Gord Stewart

Motion: To adopt the agenda as discussed

Moved by Scott Pritchett Seconded by Gord Stewart
Carried

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the August 29 meeting

Moved by Gord Stewart Seconded by Scott Pritchett
Carried

Business

Herb Kane

- Herb Kane, who operated the Middle Brook fishway for many years, passed away suddenly on Labour Day, September 3. A former fisheries guardian, Herb was also a dedicated conservationist. His work on Middle Brook was more than a job to him, it was his passion. Herb spent countless hours there even when he was not on the job. He was a renowned jokester who will be missed by all, including the salmon. Deepest condolences to his wife Muguette.

DFO Signage on Terra Nova River

- An invitation will be sent to Max Holwell of DFO to attend the October meeting to finalize plans for DFO signs for the identification of catch and retain and catch and release sections on the Terra Nova River.

Annual SCNL Membership

Motion: To pay SCNL membership fee of \$250

Moved by Scott Pritchett Seconded by Gord Stewart
Carried

DFO Workshops in Gander, October 17-18

- FABEC has been invited to attend the DFO Enforcement and Compliance workshop on October 17 and the Salmonid workshop on October 18. Kevin Stroud has volunteered to attend both sessions and Gord Stewart volunteered to attend the Salmonid session.
- At the Enforcement workshop, FABEC will raise its concerns about bag limits not being observed in a number of areas such as Triton Brook, Northwest Brook (Alexander Bay), and Pitts Pond Brook, as well as daily catch and release daily limits being exceeded on Terra Nova River.
- At the Salmonid workshop, FABEC will request that the designation of Butts Brook and George's Brook as Class III be changed back to Class IV.

SCNL Meetings in St. John's, October 19-21

- John Baird has volunteered to attend these meetings. If possible, it would be beneficial for at least one more member to attend.
- FABEC received an invitation for nominations to the SCNL executive for a 2-year term. We would be pleased to nominate any member who may be interested. Please let us know if you're interested.
- There appears to be a high likelihood that DFO will discontinue its salmon counting fence operations on Indicator Rivers in 2013. These are vital to good salmon science and resource management. FABEC will push at the SCNL for a concerted province-wide campaign to prevent these closures.
- A report on FABEC's activities for the year will be presented.

Butts Brook/George's Brook Classification

- A reminder was sent to Erin Dunne of DFO that she was going to check into how and why Butts Brook/George's Brook was changed from a Class IV to Class III designation, whereas all of the remaining Terra Nova watershed upstream from the old Terra Nova River dam remains Class IV.

Proposed Salmon Count at Mollyguajeck Falls

- FABEC will develop a proposal to operate a salmon counting fence at the fishway at Mollyguajeck Falls in 2013. The purpose is to assess salmon returns to the upper Terra Nova watershed resulting from the enhancement program that operated in the 1990's. The last count took place in 2001, when approximately 300 salmon were counted through the fence. It is hoped to have a draft proposal ready for discussion at the October meeting.

Middle Brook Trout Survey

- FABEC has received 27 responses to our survey of Middle Brook trout anglers. Our goal is get at least 60 responses. The main reason for the low response rate is that our student employees found very few trout anglers during their field trips over the summer. This effort will continue over the winter and if necessary next spring.

Next regular meeting will be 7:30 PM, Wednesday, October 31st at the R. E. Stroud Building, Glovertown.